REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE WOODFORD COUNTY CLERK

For The Year Ended December 31, 2006



CRIT LUALLEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE WOODFORD COUNTY CLERK

For The Year Ended December 31, 2006

The Auditor of Public Accounts has completed the Woodford County Clerk's audit for the year ended December 31, 2006. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement presents fairly in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting.

Financial Condition:

Excess fees decreased by \$5,763 from the prior year, resulting in excess fees of \$490,801 as of December 31, 2006. Revenues decreased by \$176,240 from the prior year and expenditures decreased by \$170,477.

Report Comments:

- The County Clerk's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Receipts
- The County Clerk Has An Inadequate Design Of Internal Control Over Cash
- The County Clerk Failed To Provide Complete And Accurate Financial Statement
- The County Clerk Should Ensure That Bank Reconciliations Are Accurate
- The County Clerk Should Take Corrective Action To Improve Controls Over Her Office

Deposits:

The County Clerk's deposits were insured and collateralized by bank securities.

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CRIT LUALLEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable John Coyle, Woodford County Judge/Executive The Honorable Corine Woolums, Woodford County Clerk Members of the Woodford County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees regulatory basis of the County Clerk of Woodford County, Kentucky, for the year ended December 31, 2006. This financial statement is the responsibility of the County Clerk. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for County Fee Officials issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the County Clerk's office prepares the financial statement on a regulatory basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees of the County Clerk for the year ended December 31, 2006, in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated June 20, 2007 on our consideration of the County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.



The Honorable John Coyle, Woodford County Judge/Executive The Honorable Corine Woolums, Woodford County Clerk Members of the Woodford County Fiscal Court

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying comments and recommendations, included herein, which discusses the following report comments:

- The County Clerk's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Receipts
- The County Clerk Has An Inadequate Design Of Internal Control Over Cash
- The County Clerk Failed To Provide Complete And Accurate Financial Statement
- The County Clerk Should Ensure That Bank Reconciliations Are Accurate
- The County Clerk Should Take Corrective Action To Improve Controls Over Her Office

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the County Clerk and Fiscal Court of Woodford County, Kentucky, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen Auditor of Public Accounts

June 20, 2007

WOODFORD COUNTY CORINE WOOLUMS, COUNTY CLERK STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS

For The Year Ended December 31, 2006

Revenues

State Fees For Services		\$ 12,738
Fiscal Court		77,894
Licenses and Taxes:		
Motor Vehicle-		
Licenses and Transfers	\$ 577,656	
Usage Tax	2,529,900	
Tangible Personal Property Tax	2,048,499	
Other-		
Fish and Game Licenses	7,897	
Marriage Licenses	5,348	
Occupational Licenses	214	
Deed Transfer Tax	170,404	
Delinquent Tax	140,118	5,480,036
Fees Collected for Services:		
Recordings-		
Deeds, Easements, and Contracts	16,314	
Real Estate Mortgages	65,647	
Chattel Mortgages and Financing Statements	57,907	
Powers of Attorney	3,358	
Deeds or Releases	21,032	
All Other Recordings	16,926	
Miscellaneous Fees	19,503	200,687
Interest Earned		 8,420
Total Revenues		5,779,775

WOODFORD COUNTY

CORINE WOOLUMS, COUNTY CLERK

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS For The Year Ended December 31,2006

(Continued)

Expenditures

Payments to State: Motor Vehicle-					
Licenses and Transfers	\$	451,610			
Usage Tax	Ψ	2,446,352			
Tangible Personal Property Tax		817,284			
Licenses, Taxes, and Fees-		017,204			
Fish and Game Licenses		7,535			
Delinquent Tax		17,559			
Legal Process Tax		13,236	\$ 3,753,576		
Payments to Fiscal Court:					
Tangible Personal Property Tax		147,821			
Delinquent Tax		8,926			
Deed Transfer Tax		189,896			
Beer and Liquor Licenses		200	346,843		
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Payments to Other Districts:					
Tangible Personal Property Tax		1,005,159			
Delinquent Tax		74,987	1,080,146		
Payments to Sheriff			1,416		
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Payments to County Attorney			20,657		
Miscellaneous			8,442		
Total Expenditures				\$	5,211,080
Total Expenditures				Ψ	3,211,000
Net Revenues					568,695
Less: Statutory Maximum					74,294
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Excess Fees					494,401
Less: Expense Allowance					3,600
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Excess Fees Due County for 2006					490,801
Payments to Fiscal Court -Monthly					480,286
Balance Due Fiscal Court at Completion of Audit				\$	10,515

WOODFORD COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 2006

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Fund Accounting

A fee official uses a fund to report on the results of operations. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

A fee official uses a fund for fees to account for activities for which the government desires periodic determination of the excess of revenues over expenditures to facilitate management control, accountability, and compliance with laws.

B. Basis of Accounting

KRS 64.820 directs the fiscal court to collect any amount, including excess fees, due from the County Clerk as determined by the audit. KRS 64.152 requires the County Clerk to settle excess fees with the fiscal court by March 15 each year.

The financial statement has been prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky and is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Under this regulatory basis of accounting, revenues and expenditures are generally recognized when cash is received or disbursed with the exception of accrual of the following items (not all-inclusive), at December 31 that may be included in the excess fees calculation:

- Interest receivable
- Collection on accounts due from others for 2006 services
- Reimbursements for 2006 activities
- Payments due other governmental entities for December tax and fee collections and payroll
- Payments due vendors for goods or services provided in 2006

The measurement focus of a fee official is upon excess fees. Remittance of excess fees is due to the County Treasurer in the subsequent year.

C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the County Clerk's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

WOODFORD COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT December 31, 2006 (Continued)

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

D. Fee Pooling

The Woodford County Clerk is required by the Fiscal Court to participate in a fee pooling system. Fee officials who are required to participate in fee pooling deposit all funds collected into their official operating account. The fee official is responsible for paying all amounts due to the taxing districts. Residual funds are then paid to the County Treasurer on a monthly basis. Invoices are submitted to the County Treasurer to document operating expenses. The County Treasurer pays all operating expenses for the fee official.

Note 2. Employee Retirement System

The county officials and employees have elected to participate in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS), pursuant to KRS 78.530 administered by the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems. This is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plan that covers all eligible full-time employees and provides for retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members.

Benefit contributions and provisions are established by statute. Nonhazardous covered employees are required to contribute 5.0 percent of their salary to the plan. The county's contribution rate for nonhazardous employees was 10.98 percent for the first six months and 13.19 percent for the last six months of the year.

Benefits fully vest on reaching five years of service for nonhazardous employees. Aspects of benefits for nonhazardous employees include retirement after 27 years of service or age 65.

Historical trend information pertaining to CERS' progress in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due is presented in the Kentucky Retirement Systems' annual financial report which is a matter of public record. This report may be obtained by writing the Kentucky Retirement Systems, 1260 Louisville Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-6124, or by telephone at (502) 564-4646.

Note 3. Deposits

The County Clerk maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the County Clerk and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution.

WOODFORD COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT December 31, 2006 (Continued)

Note 3. Deposits (Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the County Clerk's deposits may not be returned. The County Clerk does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather follows the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). As of December 31, 2006, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement.



REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS



The Honorable John Coyle, Woodford County Judge/Executive The Honorable Corine Woolums, Woodford County Clerk Members of the Woodford County Fiscal Court

> Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

We have audited the statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees - regulatory basis of the Woodford County Clerk for the year ended December 31, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated June 20, 2007. The County Clerk's financial statement is prepared in accordance with a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Woodford County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Woodford County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Woodford County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with the regulatory basis of accounting such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statement that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control over financial reporting. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying comments and recommendations to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting.

- The County Clerk's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Receipts
- The County Clerk Has An Inadequate Design Of Internal Control Over Cash



Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards (Continued)

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting (Continued)

- The County Clerk Failed To Provide Complete And Accurate Financial Statement
- The County Clerk Should Ensure That Bank Reconciliations Are Accurate
- The County Clerk Should Take Corrective Action To Improve Controls Over Her Office

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statement will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we consider the significant deficiencies described above to be material weaknesses.

Compliance And Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Woodford County Clerk's financial statement for the year ended December 31, 2006, is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Woodford County Fiscal Court, and the Kentucky Governor's Office for Local Development and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen Auditor of Public Accounts

June 20, 2007



WOODFORD COUNTY CORINE WOOLUMS, COUNTY CLERK COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

For The Year Ended December 31, 2006

INTERNAL CONTROL - SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES AND MATERIAL WEAKNESSES:

The County Clerk's Office Lacks Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Receipts

The County Clerk's office lacks adequate segregation of duties over cash receipts. Of particular concern, all employees are in the position to collect money throughout the day, including those with bookkeeping functions, resulting in no segregation between the collection of, and the recording of cash receipts. Of further concern, only one cash drawer is utilized among all employees. These two concerns alone increase the likelihood of misappropriation of cash receipts.

In order to improve internal controls over receipts and decrease the likelihood of misappropriation, we recommend the following:

- Deputies with bookkeeping functions (i.e. posting to the receipts and disbursements ledgers, preparing the daily checkout sheet and bank deposit, and preparing the bank reconciliation) should refrain from collecting money. By doing so, segregation between the collection of, and the recording of cash receipts will be present.
- The County Clerk should ensure that a separate cash drawer is available for every deputy who collects money.

If due to the size and budget restrictions, the County Clerk is unable to ensure a proper segregation of duties as recommended above, we recommend the following compensating controls be implemented in order to offset this internal control weakness:

- The County Clerk should periodically recount all receipts and agree this back to the daily checkout sheet and bank deposit. This could be documented by initialing the daily checkout sheet and bank deposit slip to show agreement.
- The County Clerk should personally take the bank deposit to the bank.
- The County Clerk should periodically agree the daily checkout sheet to the receipts ledger to ensure accuracy. This could be documented by initialing the daily checkout sheet and the receipts ledger for the day.
- The County Clerk should compare the monthly bank reconciliation to the receipts and disbursements ledger for agreement. Any variances should be reconciled. This could be documented by initialing the bank reconciliation and the receipts and disbursements ledgers.
- The County Clerk should compare the receipts and disbursements journal to the 4th Quarter Report to ensure accuracy. This could be documented by initialing the receipts and disbursements ledger and the 4th Quarter Report.

County Clerk's Response: No Response.

WOODFORD COUNTY CORINE WOOLUMS, COUNTY CLERK COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (Continued)

<u>INTERNAL CONTROL – SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES AND MATERIAL WEAKNESSES:</u> (CONTINUED)

The County Clerk Has An Inadequate Design Of Internal Control Over Cash

The County Clerk only maintains one cash drawer, which is used by all employees in the position to collect money. By utilizing only one cash drawer, cash is more susceptible to misappropriation, since it would be difficult to determine when and by whom the misappropriation might have occurred. In order to strengthen internal controls over receipts, we recommend that the County Clerk utilize a cash drawer for each employee in the position to collect money. We further recommend that each employee with a cash drawer prepare a daily checkout sheet for that drawer. The individual daily checkout sheets should then be combined and agreed to the daily deposit.

County Clerk's Response: No Response.

The County Clerk Failed To Provide Complete And Accurate Financial Statement

During the course of our audit, we noted that the receipts ledger and disbursements ledger did not agree to amounts reported per the 4th Quarter Report. In order to obtain the correct amount of receipts and disbursements, auditor recapped daily cash register receipt totals and cancelled checks, which required a substantial amount of time. KRS 68.210 requires the official to have an accurate recording of receipts by source and expenditures by payee. Auditor recommends that the County Clerk comply with KRS 68.210 by requiring the accurate recording of receipts and disbursements. We further recommend that the County Clerk ensure compliance with KRS 68.210 by comparing receipts and disbursements to the bank reconciliation on a monthly basis to ensure agreement.

County Clerk's Response: No Response.

The County Clerk Should Ensure That Bank Reconciliations Are Accurate

During our audit, we noted that bank reconciliations were being performed, although they did not always appear accurate. Bank reconciliations should be performed every month and should be compared to the receipts and disbursements ledger. Any variances should be resolved. We recommend that the County Clerk ensure that bank reconciliations are accurate. We further recommend that the County Clerk compare each monthly bank reconciliation to the corresponding receipts and disbursements ledger to ensure agreement.

County Clerk's Response: No Response.

The County Clerk Should Take Corrective Action To Improve Internal Controls Over Her Office

We identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

• Ineffective controls over month-end and year-end reporting of financial statement amounts. Monthly, quarterly, and year-end financial statements were not reconciled to receipts and disbursements ledgers or bank balance amounts.

WOODFORD COUNTY CORINE WOOLUMS, COUNTY CLERK COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (Continued)

<u>INTERNAL CONTROL – SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES AND MATERIAL WEAKNESSES:</u> (CONTINUED)

The County Clerk Should Take Corrective Action To Improve Internal Controls Over Her Office (Continued)

- Inaccurate accounting records in relation to receipts and disbursements ledgers. Receipts and disbursements ledgers were not accurately maintained or reconciled to the financial statements, monthly reports, or bank reconciliation.
- Lack of management oversight over internal control and financial reporting. The auditor identified financial statement misstatements, which were not caught by the entity's internal control
- Lack of adequate segregation of duties and compensating controls. All employees are charged with the duty of collecting money, including those with bookkeeping functions, and the recording of receipts. Of further concern, only one cash drawer is utilized among all employees.

Prior audits have disclosed similar instances in the past. It does not appear that the County Clerk has taken any steps to make corrective actions in order to improve the 'bookkeeping' functions of the office.

SAS 112 requires auditors to communicate, in writing, significant deficiencies, and material weaknesses to management. The Auditor of Public Accounts will be referring this matter to GOLD in order to request additional oversight and training to be provided to the County Clerk.

County Clerk's Response: No Response.